

February 22, 2021

Mr. Doug McMillon
CEO
Walmart
702 SW Eighth St.
Bentonville, AR 72716

Dear Doug McMillon:

Nearly eight years ago, I joined workers, local leaders, and residents of Bucyrus – “the small city positioned at the heart of Ohio” – to celebrate General Electric’s (GE) investment in manufacturing high-quality, high-efficiency light bulbs in the United States. This investment would not have been possible without Walmart’s “Investing in American Jobs Initiative,” which supported making the A-19 LED light bulb here. Now, as GE-Savant seeks to move its production of the A-19 LED bulb overseas, we ask once again for your assistance in keeping these good-paying, union jobs where they belong: in Bucyrus, Ohio.

Through its “Investing in American Jobs Initiative,” Walmart has harnessed consumer’s desire to “Buy American” and helped keep jobs in the United States. To help me better understand how this Initiative has worked to keep jobs in Bucyrus, I was hoping you could answer a few questions:

- 1) To your knowledge, do any of your competitors – whether traditional “brick and mortar” stores or solely online – purchase American-made LED light bulbs for their brand label?
- 2) With increased light bulb efficiency comes the need for fewer light bulbs. How many A-19 LED light bulbs have you purchased annually from GE-Savant?
- 3) American consumers increasingly value sustainability in their purchases. Given this, does Walmart believe that there is potential to increase the number of A-19 LED light bulbs it purchases annually from GE-Savant? If you believe you could purchase more American-made bulbs, have you communicated this to GE-Savant and, if so, when did you do so?
- 4) Similarly, are there other high-efficiency bulbs which Walmart could promote through its “Investing in American Jobs Initiative” and which could be made at GE-Savant’s Bucyrus, Ohio, plant? If you believe you could purchase more American-made bulbs, have you communicated this to GE-Savant and when did you do so?
- 5) Closing a production line in Ohio, moving it overseas, and then shipping these new, foreign-made light bulbs to the United States is an energy-intensive undertaking. It would be tragic if the process of shipping foreign-made, high-efficiency light bulbs consumed more energy than they saved. Has any

assessment been made to determine if externalities associated with foreign production exceeded any purported energy savings?

- 6) Walmart has established a number of corporate sustainability goals, including zero emissions by 2040, and the establishment of Project Gigaton, to reduce emissions across your supply chain. If your company was no longer able to purchase light bulbs made in Ohio and instead shifted to foreign-made light bulbs, how would this affect your emission reduction strategy?

For generations, Ohioans have helped light the world by producing world-class GE light bulbs. Without the hard-working people of Ohio, the story of GE-Savant cannot be written. Together – Ohio and GE Lighting, now GE-Savant, have been at the center of the story of our nation's industrial growth and development. I urge you to work with my office and GE-Savant to help keep domestic production of the A-19 LED bulb in Bucyrus.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

